

AGENDA
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011
7:00 P.M.

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT:

2. SELECTMEN'S MINUTES: January 10, 2011

3. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN CONSIDERATION:

A. Cable Television Advisory Committee – to expire June 30, 2015 (Robert Scrivens)

B. 2011 Berkshire Humane Society Race – same route as last year (A. Cabral)

C. Hazard Mitigation Planning Update (MacKenzie Greer - BRPC)

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

5. PETITIONER'S REQUEST:

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

7. ADJOURN:

Next Selectmen meeting – Monday, February 14, 2011

MINUTES
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011
7:00 P.M.

Present: Thomas E. Sheldon, Vice Chairman, Jane B. Allen, David A. Rempell

Absent: Ronald Turbin, Tom Costley

Others Present: Alix Cabral, MacKenzie Greer, Peter Fohlin, Kathy Poirot

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT: Mr. Sheldon said he has made the observation that the annual "budget dance" has begun in Boston but it is much too early to speculate its outcome now. He assured residents that they would be kept informed as the process unfolds.

2. SELECTMEN'S MINUTES: January 10, 2011 – Mr. Rempell moved to approve the January 10, 2011 minutes. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

3. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN CONSIDERATION:

- A. Cable Television Advisory Committee Appointment – Ms. Allen moved to appoint Robert Scrivens to a four-year term on the Cable Television Advisory Committee expiring June 30, 2015. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. 2011 9th Annual Berkshire Humane Society Race, April 30, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon starting at the Brown's on Water Street. Ms. Cabral informed the board that a 5K run and a 1 mile walk to benefit the Berkshire Humane Society are being planned for the same routes as last year. She added that the Williamstown Police Department have been very helpful and done a terrific job with the event in the past. The route is available in the Town Manager's office. Ms. Allen moved to approve the event. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- C. Hazard Mitigation Planning Update –Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's (BRPC) Community Planner MacKenzie Greer gave an update on her organization's efforts to update Williamstown's Natural Hazard Mitigation plan. The Commission has completed a draft document for the county and for individual towns identifying areas of concern and plans to mitigate impacts from natural disasters. She said Berkshire County's highest occurrences are flooding and severe winter storms. Hazards that don't have such a high occurrence, but are still of concern, are hurricanes, dam failures, tornados and tropical storms. She said Williamstown's plan was first drafted in 2005 and needs to be updated. Mr. Sheldon said the state requires this information in accordance with the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 as a condition for funding from FEMA. Ms. Greer said the BRPC is now accepting comments on the draft plan through March 31st. Ms. Greer also distributed a map of the Town's critical facilities that showed problem areas, dams and the FEMA 100-year Floodplain. The map can be viewed in the Town Manager's office and online at www.berkshireplanning.org/regional/HazardMitigation.html. Ms. Greer said once the draft plan is finalized it will be submitted to the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and should be returned in about a month. Then the plan will go to FEMA and that could take up to 6 months for approval. Once the plan is returned to her, it will be submitted to the town for approval. Ms. Greer said that Andrew Groff is the town contact and that any hours spent reviewing the plan by the Selectmen or any other town office should be submitted to him.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: Attached. The Town Manager's Report can be found on the Town website.

5. PETITIONER'S REQUEST: None

6. OTHER BUSINESS: Ms. Allen reported that the Board received a letter from ICLEI congratulating the Town on its Green Community designation. A copy of the ICLEI letter is filed in the Town Manager's office. Mr. Rempell asked if there have been any calls to Town Hall for help with heating problems. Mr. Fohlin said there haven't been any so far. Mr. Sheldon announced that Federal income tax forms can be obtained at the Library.

7. ADJOURN: Mr. Rempell moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The next selectmen's meeting is Monday, February 14, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane B. Allen, Secretary

JBA/kp